

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a transportable programmable information tag uniquely encoded for association with an individual purchaser of goods and/or services;

a communication unit capable of communicating information to one or more information interfaces;

a purchaser's controller, coupled to the programmable information tag and the communication unit, arranged to receive information from the information interfaces through the communication unit, said the purchaser's controller being configured for programming the programmable information tag with at least part of the information from the information interface, for confirming the purchaser has paid for and is entitled to receive from an associated merchant the goods and/or services, the information being derived from sources other than the associated merchant; and

a merchant's tag reader for permitting a merchant to read said the tag to obtain information therefrom from the sources other than the associated merchant, for confirming or authorizing the merchant to deliver the indicated goods and/or services to the associated purchaser.

2. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus and the information interface communicate in a client/server network.

3. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the programmable information tag comprises an RFID tag.

4. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the programmable information tag comprises a barcode tag.

5. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the programmable information tag is detachable from the apparatus.

6. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the information comprises a receipt for goods or service purchased via an e-commerce transaction.

7. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein the client/server network comprises the Internet.

8. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the programmed information further includes information related to a particular user.

9. (currently amended) An e-commerce method, for permitting a consumer to directly receive from a merchant the delivery of goods and/or services transacted for previously, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to complete a commercial transaction for goods or services over the Internet by a consumer;

completing the commercial transaction with the consumer;

providing an e-receipt to the consumer by an associated merchant, the e-receipt containing information that may be used by the consumer to program an RFID tag and derived from sources other than the associated merchant;

~~programming conducted by the consumer to program~~ the RFID tag with the information from said e-receipt to verify the consumer completed a transaction entitling the consumer to obtain the delivery of goods and/or services from a merchant;

presenting the programmed RFID tag to a the merchant capable of delivering the goods and/or services to the consumer;

reading via a tag reader of the merchant the information from the RFID tag, for permitting said the merchant to confirm the consumer is entitled to receive the goods and/or services, before delivering the same; and

recording information related to the commercial transaction and the e-receipt.

10. (original) The e-commerce method according to Claim 9, wherein the information includes a unique code.

11. (original) The e-commerce method according to Claim 9, wherein the information includes data related to the consumer's identity.

12. (original) The e-commerce method according to Claim 9, further comprising creating a database that includes information that is used to verify what goods or services are associated with the e-receipt.

13. (original) The e-commerce method according to Claim 12, wherein the database further includes consumer profiles.

14. (currently amended) A system for performing e-commerce transactions, comprising:
means for receiving a request to complete a commercial transaction for goods or services over the Internet by a consumer;
means for completing the commercial transaction with the consumer;
means for providing an e-receipt to the consumer, the e-receipt containing information that may be derived from sources other than an associated provider and used by the consumer to program an RFID tag to prove a transaction for the right to receive the goods and/or services;
a purchaser's controller operable by said the consumer in response to said the e-receipt, for programming said the RFID card with said the information including the proof of transaction;
a provider's card reader for permitting said a provider to read said the programmed information from said the RFID card for permitting said the provider upon confirmation of the transaction to deliver the goods and/or services to the consumer; and
means for recording information related to the commercial transaction and the e-receipt.

15. (original) The system according to Claim 14, wherein the information includes a unique code.

16. (original) The system according to Claim 14, wherein the information includes data related to the consumer's identity.

17. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 14, further comprising means for creating a database that includes information that is used to verify what goods or services are associated with the e-receipt.

18. (original) The system according to Claim 17, wherein the database further includes consumer profiles.